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BYS Minutes 09/27/2006

Board of Youth Services Minutes
 September 27, 2006

Present: Jeannette Mills, Cindy Sheridan, Elaine Shea, Mary Deyst, Dave McKenna Leon cantor, Dorothy Williams, Gene Lucarelli, Elizabeth Oppedisano, Carlene Newell, Lynn Horgan, Donna Dolan Absent: Larry Greco, Joan Robbio

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. Introductions and welcome to new member Lynn Horgan.

Minutes read. Motion to approve by Carlene Newell; seconded by Mary Deyst. Approved unanimously.

Committee reports:

CAP: Carlene updated on the status of CAPP in the schools. Superintendent has reconfigured CAPP to be part of the Great Body Shop curriculum. This will eliminate the role plays and practice of personal safety. Concerns were expressed that the information given to the School Committee was inaccurate and that the reasons for cutting CAPP were unclear. Principals reported to have some concerns, especially with the CAPP "talk time," but no specifics given. Several members voiced questions why now, when the program has gotten no complaints for 17 years. Discussion of ways to have status of CAPP clarified and decision to cut reevaluated. A subcommittee of Jeannette, Cindy and Lynn will work on a letter to the Superintendent, School Committee, and town-wide PTO. Motion by Gene, seconded by Cindy, to draft such a letter.

Campership Request: Cindy presented a request from Thompson School for fifth grade camp scholarship donation from the Board. Elaine moved that the BYS fund two camperships; seconded by Donna. Approved unanimously.

AYCC: Leon reported on current AYCC operations, particularly staffing and graduate student increases related to the new school counseling services. There are 22 graduate interns in all; 16 placed directly in the elementary schools and 6 placed at AYCC proper. Every school has 2 interns for 3 days a week with an additional 2 at Thompson. The school department is paying for AYCC to train and supervise interns. In addition to existing staff, 4 consulting supervisors at 7 hours per week have been hired.

Staff also continue to provide direct service to Special Education Programs at the Ottoson and High School.

Question was asked about the status of School-Linked Services (SLS) at Thompson School. Leon reported that many SLS programs have been taken over by the PTO and parent community. SLS now focuses on running the after school Homework Club and parent outreach.

First Step: Elaine Shea reported that there were no recent referrals to the group. These have all come in the past from Joyce Wilson, the domestic violence officer in the Police Department. Elaine, Mary Deyst and Patsy Kraemer will meet with the Police Department about the process and lack of new referrals.

Drug and Alcohol: Elizabeth Oppedisano reported on the success of Arlington Alateen and the informational material sent to school and AYCC staffs. SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) has a new name and logo; same initials. Elizabeth has met with the new School Resource Officer, Brian Gallagher, at Arlington High School. Linda Mahoney continues her work around smoking cessation.

New Business:

- Materials were handed out with copies of the BYS policies and procedures, which have not been reviewed for many years. Members agreed to read these before the next meeting and return with ideas.
- Meeting schedule was reaffirmed as the second Wednesday of each month.
- There was discussion about invitations to guests to come to future BYS meetings. Mentioned were Christine Connolly, the new Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, and Brian Gallagher, the new Police Resource Officer at AHS.
- pcoming Parent Forums were discussed. Elaine Shea moved that the BYS contribute \$350 toward this program; seconded by Donna Dolan. Unanimously approved.
- Chair Jeannette Mills read correspondence from the Human Rights Commission establishing a Rapid Response Network (RRN) for Arlington when a hate incident occurs. The letter invited the BYS to join the RRN by being

available through phone, e-mail, or meeting to plan responses to such incidents. Dorothy Williams moved that the Board approve of and join this effort; seconded by Mary Deyst. Approved unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Dorothy Williams at 9:10 pm; seconded by Lynn Horgan.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Dolan.